

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2290
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2005
INVESTMENT IN DEFENCE PROJECTS
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount invested by the Government on (i) Light Combat aircraft, (ii) Kaveri Gas Turbine engine, and (iii) Airborne Early Warning System projects; and

(b) the present status of these projects?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) Government has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 11,078 crores for projects such as Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), Kaveri Gas Turbine Engine and Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) System.

(b) the present status of these projects is as under:-

Light Combat Aircraft:-Three prototypes of LCA (Tejas) have completed 376 test flights including supersonic flights. Another four prototypes will join test flights during 2005. Initial Operational Clearance (IOC) is planned to be obtained by March 2007.

Kaveri Gas Turbine Engine:-Kaveri engine has completed 1300 hrs of ground and high altitude testing. First Kaveri engine is scheduled to be integrated with LCA by March 2007.

Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) System:-AEW&C was sanctioned on 6th October 2004. The system specifications vis-à-vis the operational requirements have been formulated. The project is likely to be completed in about seven years.